

NORTH & SOUTH

FEATURES

12 THE TEN GREATEST BLUNDERS OF THE CIVIL WAR

A panel of historians discusses the many wrong turns taken by the Union and Confederacy. —*Steven H. Newton, Keith Poulter, John Y. Simon, Craig L. Symonds, and Steven E. Woodworth*

26 THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN

The Confederate frontal assault at Franklin, Tennessee, on November 30, 1864, was on a larger scale than Pickett's Charge—but was equally disastrous. —*Patrick Brennan*

48 WILLIAM C. OATES AND THE DEATH OF GENERAL ELON FARNSWORTH

Among the Union dead at Gettysburg was newly promoted Brigadier General Elon J. Farnsworth. His adversary, Colonel William C. Oates of the 15th Alabama, believed to his dying day that the Union officer committed suicide rather than be taken prisoner. —*Glenn W. LaFantasie*

56 GENERAL MEADE AND THE SECOND BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG

In the months following the Battle of Gettysburg, the victorious Union commander was assaulted by a coterie of subordinate generals, a congressional committee dominated by Radical Republicans, and important sections of the press. —*Stephen W. Sears*

66 "A JUSTIFIABLE CRIME": DESERTION IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY

Desertion sapped the strength of Confederate armies almost from the start of the war, and by the time Richmond recognized the magnitude of the problem, it was too late. —*Mark A. Weitz*

78 HENRY W. HALLECK: THE EARLY SEEDS OF FAILURE

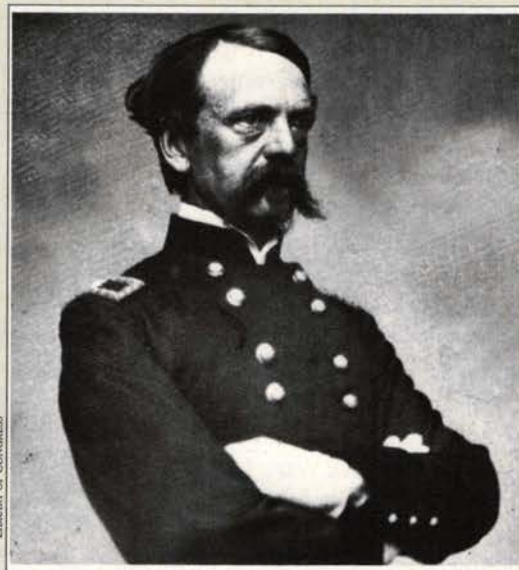
Although highly successful prior to the war, the roots of Henry Halleck's failure as general-in-chief lay in the past. —*John F. Marszalek*

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Map detail of Hood's advance to Franklin, Tennessee.
("The Battle of Franklin" page 26)



Daniel Sickles
("General Meade and the Second Battle
of Gettysburg" page 56)



Rations from the stalk.
("A Justifiable Crime" page 66)

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12 DISSENTERS FROM THE AMERICAN MOOD

The men who comprised the U.S. Navy during the Civil War have largely been overlooked by historians. An examination of who these “Union Jacks” were and why they enlisted reveals how very different they were from their army counterparts. —*Michael J. Bennett*

22 LIKE A CANE BRAKE ON FIRE

On July 1, 1862, the 21st Mississippi Infantry braved heavy fire in an ill-fated assault on the Union position atop Malvern Hill in Virginia. Those of its members who survived would come away with a valuable lesson in war, in addition to the physical and psychological scars of battle. —*Jeff T. Giambrone*

34 “THERE IS A BAD ENEMY IN THIS CITY”

As others have since discovered, achieving victory on the battlefield is but one step—and perhaps not the hardest one—toward winning a war. After victory comes occupation. —*William B. Feis*

48 THE BATTLES FOR HORSESHOE RIDGE

For the men of the 96th Illinois Infantry, the Battle of Chickamauga occurred in two parts: the first during an afternoon in September 1863, the second over thirty years later; one battle was for their very lives, the other for their place in history. —*Dave Powell*

64 GENERAL LEE’S FORGOTTEN MAPMAKER

Less well-known than famed Confederate cartographer Jed Hotchkiss, Major Albert H. Campbell, chief of the Department of Northern Virginia’s Topographical Department, played a vital role in supplying Robert E. Lee’s army with much-needed and accurate maps. —*Richard W. Stephenson*

76 “THIS BRILLIANT EXPLOIT”

A daring group of Confederate sailors and marines conduct a nighttime raid on the USS *Underwriter* in the waters off New Berne, North Carolina. —*Derek Smith*

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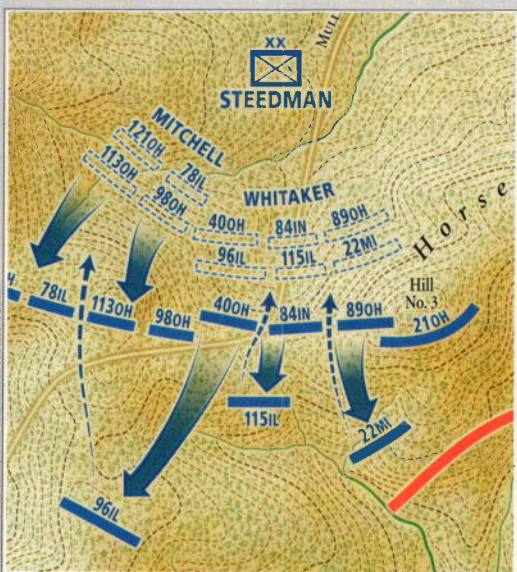
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Black crew members sewing and relaxing aboard the USS *Miami*. (“Dissenters from the American Mood” page 12)



Sentry outposts and large gates protect Nashville’s railroad bridge across the Cumberland River. (“There is a Bad Enemy in this City” page 34)



Map detail of the initial advance at Horseshoe Ridge. (“The Battles for Horseshoe Ridge” page 48)

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12 THE LITHOGRAPHERS' WAR

While Northern and Southern armies battled in the field, Northern and Southern lithographers battled on the outside of envelopes, creating some of the most colorful and powerfully charged images the nation had ever seen.
—Stephen Berry

20 LAST STAND IN THE HEARTLAND

Fresh from its bloody defeat at the Battle of Franklin, Confederate general John Bell Hood's battered Army of Tennessee faced off in a rematch with Union general George Thomas' Army of the Cumberland on the outskirts of Nashville, Tennessee, on December 15-16, 1864. The result was decisive. —Patrick Brennan

46 "MUST WE NOT PUNISH TO CONQUER?"

Early in the war, a growing number of militant pro-war northern civilians—frustrated by military defeats and delays, as well as the conciliatory policies of moderate politicians in Washington—pushed for the waging of a more aggressive conflict. The only way to reconstruct the nation successfully, they believed, was to begin by thoroughly crushing the rebellion. —Silvana R. Siddali

60 THE BATTLE OF SELMA, APRIL 1865

Days before Robert E. Lee's surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, Union forces under Major General James Harrison Wilson attacked the key industrial center of Selma, Alabama, where Confederate defenses were directed by the infamous rebel horseman Nathan Bedford Forrest. —Jerry Keenan

72 HAPLESS OR HELPMATE?

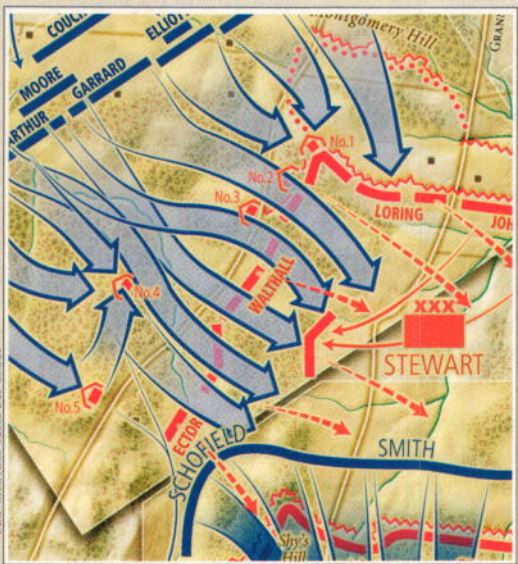
The effectiveness of the Union blockade of southern ports has long been debated. An examination of the blockade from a medical perspective yields interesting answers as to its potency. —Michael A. Flannery

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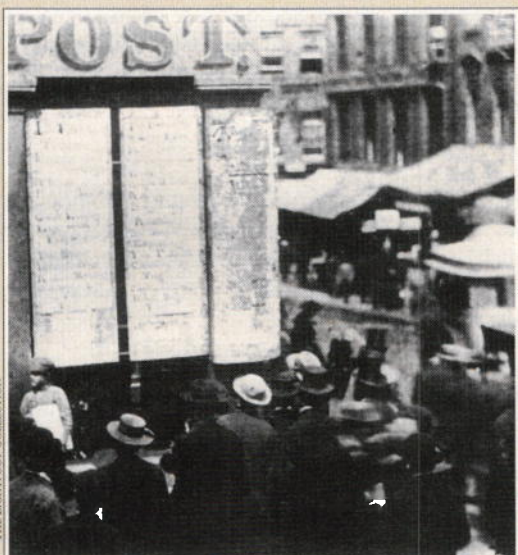
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"Jeff. Davis' Coat of 'ALMS.'"
("The Lithographers' War" page 12)



December 15-16, 1864, map detail.
("The Battle of Nashville" page 20)



Citizens read casualty lists posted by the
New York Evening Post Bulletin.
("Must We Not Punish to Conquer?" page 46)

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14 REFLECTIONS ON GETTYSBURG

America's leading Civil War historian considers the Battle of Gettysburg, its significance, and its meaning today. —*James M. McPherson*

18 GETTYSBURG FOR THE AGES

In 1999 a new general management plan was formulated for the Gettysburg National Military Park, one that called for new efforts in preservation, restoration, and interpretation. Since then, big changes have occurred, both on the battlefield and in the borough—with more to come. But, as the park's superintendent notes, not all of these changes have met with approval. In some important ways, the battle over Gettysburg is still being fought. —*John A. Latschar*

30 THE MEADE OF GETTYSBURG

In the many years since the fighting ended at Gettysburg, historians of the battle have focused their attention primarily on the general who lost—Robert E. Lee—and not the general who won. The victor of Gettysburg—George Gordon Meade—deserves his day in the sun. —*Stephen W. Sears*

40 JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE ROAD TO IMMORTALITY

To understand the rise to stardom of Joshua Chamberlain, whose 20th Maine Infantry fought so valiantly on the slopes of Little Round Top at Gettysburg, one must first get him off Mount Olympus and see him as a whole. Doing so reveals a human being with strengths and weaknesses, virtues and flaws. —*Glenn W. LaFantasie*

52 GETTYSBURG POINT-COUNTERPOINT

Wrangling over the Battle of Gettysburg's outcome and significance continues to this day, several key questions remaining unanswered in the eyes of many scholars and buffs. Here, six experts on the battle weigh in on three of these questions:

- Was Dan Sickles the savior of the Union left on July 2?
—*Robert J. Dalessandro and Scott Hartwig*
- What if Lee had been victorious at Gettysburg?
—*Steven H. Newton and Robert Himmer*
- Was the Battle of Gettysburg the turning point of the Civil War?
—*Richard M. McMurry and Troy Harman*

76 THE BEST GETTYSBURG BOOKS

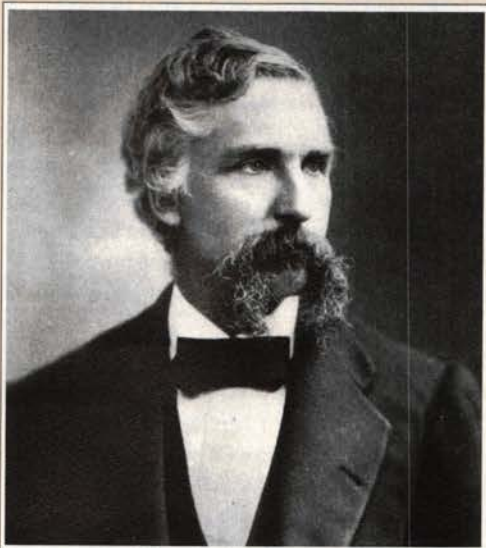
The Battle of Gettysburg has been the subject of hundreds of pamphlets, articles, and books—more than seventy new titles appearing in the last five years alone. A survey of the cream of the crop.
—*Richard A. Sauers*

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"Battle of Gettysburg" Cyclorama Painting Restoration
("Gettysburg for the Ages" page 18)



Joshua L. Chamberlain, c.1875.
("...The Road To Immortality" page 40)



Map detail from "Sickles' Decision at Gettysburg."
("Gettysburg Point-Counterpoint" page 52)

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12 WHAT CAUSED THE CIVIL WAR?

Was it slavery? Economics? A dispute over states' rights? All or none of the above? A leading historian of the Civil War era weighs in on this still-contested question. —*Edward L. Ayers*

20 THE GREATEST RAID

During the final days of December 1862, Brigadier General James G. Blunt led a force of 8,000 "picked men" from the Union Army of the Frontier into the prosperous riverfront town of Van Buren, Arkansas, their objective to seek and drive from northern Arkansas the Confederate force commanded by Major General Thomas C. Hindman. The result was swift and decisive. —*William L. Shea*

38 CONFEDERATE CRUSADERS

In the ranks of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia were a great many young men from the Old Dominion—young men who had grown up with the institution of slavery, were ideologically connected to the master class, and had lobbied for secession while their conservative elders preached Union. An examination of why they served, how they experienced the war, and the ways in which they coped with defeat bears interesting results. —*Peter S. Carmichael*

50 ABRAHAM LINCOLN, AMERICAN HERO

A top Lincoln scholar examines Honest Abe's life—his background, values, ambitions, and decisions—and argues the case for his place among our nation's greatest figures. —*Harold Holzer*

64 AMBUSH ON THE STONO

The story of the bold January 30, 1863, surprise attack against and capture of the blockader USS *Isaac Smith* on the Stono River near Charleston, South Carolina. —*Derek Smith*

72 "GENTLEMEN, YOU HAVE PLAYED THIS D—D WELL!"

Late on the afternoon of June 8, 1863, two mounted men entered Fort Granger, located across the Harpeth River from Franklin, Tennessee, and identified themselves as Federal officers on a mission to inspect area outposts. By morning both would be dead, hanged as spies after a brief drumhead court-martial. The story of how and why this happened is as interesting as the men's true identities—and their connection to a leading Confederate general. —*Tonia J. Smith*

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Major General E.O.C. Ord
("Knapsack" page 8)



Map detail from "Blunt's Raid: Action at Van Buren."
("The Greatest Raid" page 20)



Lincoln's funeral, April 19, 1865.
("Abraham Lincoln, American Hero" page 50)

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14 THINKING ABOUT THE UNTHINKABLE

In January 1864 General Patrick Cleburne controversially proposed that the Confederacy “immediately commence training a large reserve of the most courageous of our slaves” as soldiers. By war’s end, other prominent Confederates had embraced the concept. Was the idea of arming slaves a revision or repudiation of the Confederacy’s original war aims? —*Bruce Levine*

24 THE BATTLE OF SABINE PASS

On September 8, 1863, a small group of Confederates under the leadership of Lieutenant Richard “Dick” Dowling repulsed a Union force ten times their size at Sabine Pass in Texas. It was a victory that President Jefferson Davis characterized as “without parallel in ancient or modern war.” —*Edward T. Cotham Jr.*

38 OF BEASTS AND BARBARITIES

The Federal occupation of New Orleans in April 1862 was of great strategic importance. The press’ treatment of issues surrounding the occupation, however, proved to be even more consequential, and left an enduring impact on how Northerners and Southerners looked at each other and thought about the prospect of reunion.

—*Andrew S. Coopersmith*

52 AFRICAN AMERICANS RESIST THE CONFEDERACY

A leading Civil War scholar considers what so many other historians of the conflict have failed to recognize in their studies—the presence and significance of organized anti-Confederate resistance, behind rebel lines, on the part of free and enslaved African Americans.

—*Steven H. Newton*

61 CLOCKS, CAMPS, AND PRISONS

An examination of how Civil War soldiers struggled to abandon their antebellum understanding and use of time in the face of the new realities of military life. —*Cheryl A. Wells*

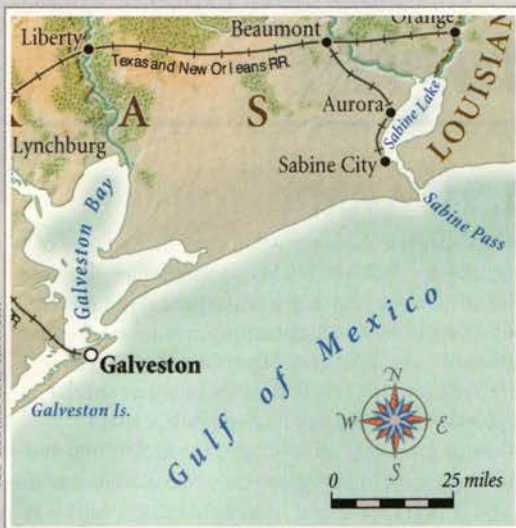
70 THE BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL

In what would be the last battle of the Louisiana phase of the Red River Campaign, Confederates under Major General Richard Taylor, following up on a victory against Major General Nathaniel P. Banks’ Federals at Mansfield, Louisiana, on April 8, 1864, attacked the enemy the next day at nearby Pleasant Hill. The resulting fight would be marked by blunders on both sides. —*Curtis Milbourn and Steve Bounds*

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Coastal Texas map detail.
("The Battle of Sabine Pass" page 24)



Captain Theodorus Bailey and Lieutenant George H. Perkins
on their way to demand the surrender of New Orleans.
("Of Beasts and Barbarities" page 38)



Soldiers pass time playing cards.
("Clocks, Camps, and Prisons" page 61)

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12 THE TEN GREATEST SUCCESSES OF THE CIVIL WAR

A panel of historians discusses the most significant achievements of the Union and Confederacy. —*Steven H. Newton, Keith Poulter, Gerald J. Prokopowicz, John Y. Simon, Craig L. Symonds, and Steven E. Woodworth*

28 THE "DUMP LINCOLN" MOVEMENTS OF 1864

In 1864 disaffected members of the Republican Party—who harbored sincere doubts about the president's management abilities, fretted about his use of presidential power, and questioned his commitment to ensuring equal civil and political rights for black Americans—made no fewer than three major efforts to deny Abraham Lincoln a second presidential term. Their failure was far from inevitable. —*Mark Grimsley*

40 A TRAGEDY OF ERRORS

On July 4, 1863, the strategically vital city of Vicksburg, Mississippi, fell to Union forces. It was a stunning defeat for the Confederacy, one foreshadowed by two seemingly unrelated events, both of which occurred in 1862, that ensured that unity of command would not be realized by those responsible for the city's defense. —*Terrence J. Winschel*

52 "CHRISTMAS GIF," EMPTY CHAIRS, AND CONFEDERATE DEFEAT

In the antebellum years, Christmas celebrations in the plantation South were elaborate events that were vitally important to the master-slave relationship. These celebrations disintegrated during the war, as the South increasingly felt the pinch of hard times. The resulting rise in disaffection among slaves and fear of rebellion among masters and their families hampered the Confederacy's stability and quest for independence. —*Robert E. May*

62 THE WAR BETWEEN THE NAMES

What should the American war of 1861 to 1865 be called? There is no shortage of alternatives. For more than a century, the debate has centered on the appropriateness of the consensus name Civil War versus the Southern alternative, War Between the States. Is one more fitting than the other? An examination of each name's historical usage—and proponents—provides interesting insights. —*John M. Coski*

74 HARMONIOUS DISCORD

The American Civil War has been described as the most musical of all wars. From morale-boosting tunes for marching to sentimental songs around the campfire, countless soldiers acknowledged the powerful influence that music had in bolstering their spirits during times of despair. —*James A. Davis*

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Assistant Conservator David Krop working on one of the guns from the USS Monitor's turret. ("I Could Still Hear That Distressing Howl..." page 95)



Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth president of the United States. ("The 'Dump Lincoln' Movements of 1864" page 28)



A musician from the 2nd Regulars, U.S. Cavalry. ("Harmonious Discord" page 74)